



**U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Regional Director
Region IV**

February 10, 2006

TO: Mayors and Other Interested Parties
FROM: Bob Young, Regional Director, Atlanta Office

As a former mayor myself, I understand the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for your city under base realignment and closure (BRAC). We at the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development wish to assist your administration with an initiative we call: *"Operation Fresh Start."*

As a first step, we have prepared the enclosed tool kit to make you aware of some of the resources available to your community through HUD. Some of these may be familiar to you, and others may not. This tool kit is also available on-line at: www.hud.gov/ofs. The links at this site will enable you to get more detailed information for each of the programs.

Working through our local field offices, the HUD team is available to you and your local redevelopment authority to help navigate our programs and processes. Our staff also offers a variety of expertise in developing partnerships in both the public and private sectors.

I trust you will find our tool kit helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly should you have any immediate questions or concerns at 404-331-5001 x2008.

HUD's mission is to increase homeownership, support community development and increase access to affordable housing free from discrimination.

